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Geospatial information and services for disasters

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters, which will be made available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/8th-Session/). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the progress of the working group in its efforts to have the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters for 2016–2030 adopted by the Economic and Social Council. The Strategic Framework serves as an internationally agreed guide for Member States and other stakeholders to the collection, application and use of geospatial data across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management.

Summary of the report

At its seventh session, held in New York from 2 to 4 August 2017, the Committee of Experts adopted decision 7/110, in which it welcomed the report of the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters and commended the work and effort of the working group in refining the then draft Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters, inclusive of the inputs from the global consultation. Also in decision 7/110, the Committee adopted the Strategic Framework as a guide for Member States in their respective national activities to ensure the availability and accessibility of quality geospatial information and services across all phases of the emergency cycle, and as a means to reach out and engage with decision makers, and endorsed the consideration of drafting a resolution presenting the Strategic Framework for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. In addition, the Committee expressed support for the proposal of the

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working group to develop an assessment tool to assist Member States and the regional committees of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management to evaluate and develop their respective implementation plans and to monitor and report progress on the implementation of the Strategic Framework.

In the report, the working group provides information on its intersessional activities, including the preparation of the draft resolution on the Strategic Framework, informal consultations with representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations, led by Jamaica and the Philippines, and the promotion of the Strategic Framework in international forums.